



Not Too Easy, Not Too Hard, But Just Right!

(First chapter books found in the J F Section)

Chosen by the Children's Librarians at the
City of Mountain View Public Library

- J Adler, David. CAM JANSEN AND THE CHOCOLATE FUDGE MYSTERY. Mystery (58 pages)
When Cam Jansen and her friend Eric uncover a mystery while selling fudge door-to-door to raise money for the local library, Cam uses her photographic memory to foil a crime.
- J Allen, Linda. LIONEL AND THE SPY NEXT DOOR. Mystery (94 pages)
Lionel is convinced his new neighbor, Mark Shakespeare, is really a spy.
- J Berends, Polly. CASE OF THE ELEVATOR DUCK. Mystery (54 pages)
Young detective Gilbert finds a duck in the elevator of his housing project. But, no one will admit to losing the duck because No Pets Are Allowed in the project. How Gilbert cleverly solves the case makes a humorous story of detection and city life.
- J Brenner, Barbara. MYSTERY OF THE PLUMED SERPENT. Mystery (118 pages)
M Michael's knowledge of Mexican history and Elena's taste for adventure help the twins unravel the mystery of the golden snake.



- J M Bromberg, Andre. HOUSE ON BLACKTHORN HILL. Mystery (47 pages)
Amanda and Sherlock Jones invite the reader to play detective and unravel several short mysteries. Solutions are in the back of the book so you can test your detective skills.
- J Bulla, Clyde. RIDING THE PONY EXPRESS. Adventure (95 pages)
Adventures of two boys: one a city dude and the other a Pony Express rider's son.
- J Byars, Betsy. BEANS ON THE ROOF. Family Stories (63 pages)
As each of the five members of the Bean family tries to write a "roof" poem, they come to realize just how nice it is to be a Bean.
- J SS Cameron, Ann. STORIES JULIAN TELLS. Family Stories (71 pages)
Relates episodes in seven-year-old Julian's life which include getting into trouble with his younger brother, Huey, planning a garden, what he did to try to grow taller, losing a tooth and finding a new friend.
- J Carlson, Natalie. FAMILY UNDER THE BRIDGE. Friendship (97 pages)
Old Armand, a Paris hobo, finds three children in his hideaway under the bridge and befriends them.
- J Carrick, Carol. SOME FRIEND. Friendship (112 pages)
It is difficult for Mike to accept his friend Rob's bossy behavior.
- J Chang, Heidi. ELAINE, MARY LEWIS, AND THE FROGS. Friendship (64 pages)
Chinese American Elaine Chow feels like an outcast after moving to a small town in Iowa, until she shares a new friendship and a science project with a girl strongly interested in frogs.
- J Chew, Ruth. WOULD BE WITCH. Fantasy (112 pages)
Robin and Andy take midnight rides on a flying dustpan.
- J M Christian, Mary Blount. MALTESE FELINE. Mystery (53 pages)
Fenton and Gerald investigate a suspected kidnapping after finding a note containing a plea for help tucked inside a cat's collar.
- J Christopher, Matt. CENTERFIELD BALLHAWK. Sports (59 pages)
Baseball player Jose Mendez worries about his poor performance with the bat and fears disappointing his father, a former ballplayer with an outstanding batting average.
- J Clymer, Eleanor. SANTIAGO'S SILVER MINE. Adventure (74 pages)
In a first person narrative set in a Mexican village, Santiago hopes to find a treasure for his poor family in an abandoned silver mine.
- J Conford, Ellen. JENNY ARCHER, AUTHOR. Humor (61 pages)
Stymied by an assignment to write her autobiography, Jenny decides to enhance her life story by using her considerable imagination.
- J Coville, Bruce. MONSTER'S RING. Fantasy (87 pages)
A timid boy, eager to frighten the school bully on Halloween night, acquires a magic ring and the power to change himself into a hideous monster.

- J Delton, Judy. BACK YARD ANGEL. Family Stories (107 pages)
In brief, easy-to-read episodes, this is the story of a very special relationship between an older sister and her tagalong little brother.
- J Erickson, Phoebe. DOUBLE OR NOTHING. Animal Stories (128 pages)
Jeff and Ellen Gates wanted a dog of their own, but it never occurred to them that they would find their dog, or that he would turn out to be homeless, hungry and twins!
- J Erickson, Russell. TOAD FOR TUESDAY. Adventure (64 pages)
On Thursday, a toad is captured by an owl who saves him to eat on Tuesday, the owl's birthday, but the intervening five days change his mind.
- J Fox, Paula. MAURICE'S ROOM. Family Stories (63 pages)
A city boy's room is cluttered with junk and small animals until his family moves to the country where an old barn proves the ideal place for his collection.
- J Goldin, Barbara. RED MEANS GOOD FORTUNE. Historical Fiction (54 pages)
Twelve-year-old Jin Mun, working for his father's laundry in San Francisco Chinatown, is shocked to discover that one of his neighbors is a slave girl, forbidden to leave her house.
- J Greene, Constance. EARS OF LOUIS. Real Life (90 pages)
Louis at last finds a solution to the social problems caused by having such large ears that people call his head "Sugar Bowl".
- J Greenfield, Eloise. TALK ABOUT A FAMILY. Family Stories (60 pages)
Genny is eager for her eldest brother's return from military service, convinced that he can fix everything - even the growing rift between their parents.
- J Hall, Lynn. HAUNTING OF THE GREEN BIRD. Friendship (64 pages)
A lonely young girl must defy her father in order to save the Indian mound she has discovered on her family's farm and the odd friendship she has formed with the ghost of an Indian girl.
- J Hays, Wilma Pritchford. NOKO, CAPTIVE OF COLUMBUS. Historical Fiction (64 pages)
This exciting story is the first to tell of the voyages of Columbus through the eyes of an Indian boy.
- J Herman, Charlotte. MILLIE COOPER, TAKE A CHANCE. Real Life (94 pages)
Everyday life in 1947 is not much different than today. Millie learns that taking chances is important to succeeding in life.
- J Howe, James. CELERY STALKS AT MIDNIGHT. Animal Stories (98 pages)
Sequel to the popular and humorous BUNNICULA. This is the further adventures of Chester, the cat, and Harold, the dog, and their efforts to solve the mystery of the vampire rabbit.
- J Hurwitz, Johanna. CLASS PRESIDENT. School Stories (85 pages)
Julio hides his own leadership ambitions to help another candidate win the nomination for class president.
- J Hutchins, Pat. RATS. Family Stories (96 pages)
Sam's insists on getting a pet rat. That changes his family's entire routine and brings an exciting surprise.

- J Kidd, Diana. ONION TEARS. Family Stories (62 pages)
A little Vietnamese girl tries to come to terms with her grief over the loss of her family and her new life with the Australian family with whom she lives.
- J Kline, Suzy. HERBIE JONES. School Stories (95 pages)
Herbie's experiences in the third grade include finding bones in the boy's bathroom and wandering away from his class on their field trip.
- J Kudlinski, Kathleen. NIGHT BIRD. Historical Fiction (54 pages)
In 1840 Night Bird, whose clan of Seminole Indians is fighting to preserve its traditional way of life in Florida, must decide whether to seek land and an unknown future in distant Oklahoma.
- J Landon, Lucinda. MEG MACKINTOSH AND THE MYSTERY AT THE MEDIEVAL CASTLE.
M Mystery (52 pages)
Meg and her classmates visit a medieval castle and become eyewitnesses to the theft of a priceless silver chalice. The reader is asked to solve the mystery before Meg, using clues found in the text and illustrations.
- J Levy, Elizabeth. TRYOUTS. Sports (102 pages)
The boy's basketball team finds that it must accept two girls.
- J Lowry, Lois. GOONEY BIRD GREENE. School Stories (88 pages)
A most unusual new student who loves to be the center of attention entertains her teacher and fellow second graders by telling absolutely true stories about herself, including how she got her name.
- J MacLachlan, Patricia. SARAH, PLAIN AND TALL. Historical Fiction (64 pages)
When their father invites a mail-order bride to come live with them in their prairie home, Caleb and Anna like their new mother and hope that she will stay.
- J MacMillan, Dianne. MY BEST FRIEND, DUC TRAN. Friendship (38 pages)
An American boy's friendship with a Vietnamese American boy and his family introduces him to the holidays, customs, foods and family events of their culture.
- J Marzollo, Jean. PIZZA PIE SLUGGER. Sports (62 pages)
Billy, the former champion slugger for his third grade baseball team, is bothered by his very young stepsister's presence at games and feels that she is jinxing him into a batting slump.
- J McDonald, Megan. STINK AND THE GREAT GUINEA PIG EXPRESS. Friendship (120 pages)
When the pet store owner rescues 101 guinea pigs, Stink and his friends come up with a plan to help her give them away.
- J Momaday, Natachee. OWL IN THE CEDAR TREE. Historical Fiction (116 pages)
A Navaho boy with a secret wish is torn by conflicting cultures.
- J O'Connell, Joan. DOLLHOUSE CAPER. Fantasy (94 pages)
An adventure/fantasy about a family of dolls that comes to life when no humans are about.

- J Pinkwater, Daniel. SLAVES OF SPIEGEL. Science Fiction (88 pages)
When the sugar vampires sample Steve Nickelson's cooking at a Hoboken restaurant called the Magic Moscow they decide Steve must be earth's contestant in a monstrous intergalactic cooking contest.
- J Place, Marian. BOY WHO SAW BIGFOOT. Adventure (96 pages)
When a young fourth-grader sights Bigfoot his adventures begin.
- J Press, Hans. ADVENTURES OF THE BLACK HAND GANG. Mystery (128 pages)
SS Four exciting mysteries are solved by a group of four children who call themselves the Black Hand Gang.
- J Quackenbush, Robert. DOGSLED TO DREAD. Mystery (48 pages)
When Miss Mallard, the famous ducktective, is invited to Alaska to see the start of the famous sled dog race, her skills are challenged by the dognapping of a prize husky.
- J Root, Phyllis. LISTENING SILENCE. Historical Fiction (106 pages)
A young Indian girl triumphs over her fears and proves herself worthy to be the mystical healer of her village.
- J Rounds, Glen. BLIND COLT. Animal Stories (74 pages)
A colt is born blind and as a member of a herd of wild horses on the Badlands has little chance of survival. This engrossing story describes the blind colt's education as his other senses grow sharper to take the place of his eyes.
- J Service, Pamela. STINKER FROM SPACE. Science Fiction (83 pages)
SF An agent of the Sylon Confederacy, fleeing from enemy ships, crash lands on Earth, transfers his mind to the body of a skunk, and enlists the aid of two children in getting back to his home planet.
- J Sharmat, Marjorie. PIZZA MONSTER. Humor (43 pages)
Wealthy secret agent Olivia Sharp helps depressed Duncan find a friend.
- J Slobodkin, Louis. SPACE SHIP UNDER THE APPLE TREE. Science Fiction (114 pages)
Eddie discovers small men in his grandmother's apple tree.
- J Tamar, Erika. SOCCER MANIA! Sports (60 pages)
Nine-year-old Pete and his friends, who enjoy playing pick-up soccer, get registered as an official team and discover the negative aspects of competition.
- J Uchida, Yoshiko. SUMI AND THE GOAT AND THE TOKYO EXPRESS. Animal Stories (43 pages)
When Sumi's 99 year old neighbor, Mr. Oda, gets a pet goat, Sumi wants to be friends with it. But Miki doesn't seem to appreciate the red wool hat Sumi offers in friendship, until the goat wanders onto the railroad tracks!
- J Vandewetering, Janwillem. HUGH PINE. Animal Stories (82 pages)
Hugh Pine, a porcupine genius, works with his human friends to save his less intelligent fellow porcupines from the deadly dangers of the road.

- J Waddell, Martin. HARRIET AND THE HAUNTED ROBOT. Mystery (79 pages)
Harriet, who brings trouble wherever she goes, gives her dear friend Anthea a doll for her birthday - a large robot she has made herself and is not quite able to control.
- J Whelan, Gloria. NEXT SPRING AN ORIOLE. Historical Fiction (60 pages)
In 1837 ten-year-old Libby and her parents journey by covered wagon to the Michigan frontier, where they make themselves a new home near friendly Indians and other pioneers.
- J Yolen, Jane. ENCOUNTER. Historical Fiction (28 pages)
A Taino Indian boy on the island of San Salvador recounts the landing of Columbus and his men in 1492.



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